

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OAS, TECH
SUBJECT: TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION: PERUVIAN VIEWS
ON OAS TECHNOLOGY EXPERTS WORKING GROUP

REF: STATE 299448

1.ECON OFF MET DECEMBER 15 WITH ISIAIS FLIT,
GENERAL DIRECTOR OF PERU'S INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL
TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS
(INSTITUTO DE INVESTIGACION TECNOLÓGICA INDUSTRIAL Y
NORMAS TÉCNICAS - ITINTEC), TO DISCUSS JANUARY SESSION
OF TEWG AS REQUESTED REFTEL

2. FLIT INDICATED THAT GOP HAD NOT YET GIVEN MUCH
ATTENTION TO UPCOMING MEETING. HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT
HAVING SERVED ON GOP DELEGATIONS TO SIMILAR MEETINGS IN
PAST AND BASED ON HIS POSITION AS PRINCIPAL ADVISOR TO FOREIGN
MINISTRY ON TECHNOLOGICAL TRANSFER SUBJECT, HE WAS SURE THAT
GOP POSITION WOULD NOT BE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT IT HAD
BEEN AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS. ACCORDING TO FLIT JANUARY
SESSION OF TEWG SHOULDN'T HAVE TO SPEND MUCH TIME IN INITIAL
EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON ISSUES OF TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION SINCE
BY NOW US HAS HAD SEVERAL OPPORTUNITIES TO HEAR LATIN VIEWS.
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RATHER, TEWG SESSION SHOULD MOVE DIRECTLY TO SUBSTANCE OF
ISSUES. AS FLIT PUT IT, PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MEETING SHOULD
CONCENTRATE ON "POLITICS, NOT POLICIES," FLIT INTERPRETED HIS
DEFINITION OF POLITICS AS "WHO GETS WHAT, WHEN."

3. EXPLAINING FURTHER, HE SAID THAT LATINS HAVE BEEN DIS-

ILLUSIONED WITH EARLIER MEETINGS ON TECH COOPERATION. IN HIS VIEW THE ORIGINAL U.S. INTENT FOR INTRODUCING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ISSUE AT TLATELOLCO WAS TO SCORE POLITICAL POINTS. HE FEELS U.S. HAS NOT DEMONSTRATED THAT IT IS EARNEST IN ITS PROFESSED DESIRE TO ASSIST THE LATIN COUNTRIES IN THIS AREA.

4. FLIT CHARACTERIZED U.S. IDEAS FOR REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION AS PERHAPS USEFUL, BUT ONLY PERIPHERAL TO WHAT LATINS REALLY WANT. REFERRING SPECIFICALLY TO EXPANDED ACCESS TO NATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICE (NTIS), FLIT SAID HIS INSTITUTION'S EXPERIENCE WAS THAT ALTHOUGH NTIS SAID IT WAS OFFERING ASSISTANCE, WHAT IT REALLY WANTED WAS A BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP AND IN A MANNER THAT WOULD HAVE RESTRICTED ITINTEC'S FREEDOM OF ACTION. HE SAID THAT HE FEARED OTHER U.S. PROPOSALS WOULD BE ALONG SAME LINES, I.E. IN FLIT'S VIEW, PRIMARILY WINDOW DRESSING WITH LITTLE SUBSTANTIVE RESPONSE TO LATIN DESIRES.

4. FLIT SAID EITHER HE OR ANOTHER ITINTEC OFFICIAL, GUSTAVO FLORES, WOULD PROBABLY BE ON PERUVIAN DELEGATION, BUT SINCE HE HAD NOT YET DISCUSSED TEWG JANUARY SESSION WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY, HE COULD NOT PROVIDE MORE INFO ON PERU'S REPRESENTATION THERE.

5. COMMENT: FLIT CLEARLY FEELS U.S. HAS NOT BEEN FORTHCOMING WITH LATINS ON TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION ISSUE DESPITE HAVING HAD VARIOUS OPPORTUNITIES AT SERIES OF MEETINGS OVER LAST FEW YEARS. HE THINKS U.S. ACTIONS HAVE NOT MATCHED WORDS. FLIT CLAIMS THAT OTHER LATINS AND MANY MEMBERS OF U.S. SCIENCE AND ACADEMIC COMMUNITY SHARE HIS VIEW. U.S. DEL SHOULD EXPECT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FLIT TO ESPOUSE THIS POSITION WITH VIGOR SHOULD HE ATTEND TEWG SESSION. WHILE FLIT HAS TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS TO MAKE HIM EFFECTIVE CHAIRMAN OF TEWG, IN LIGHT OF HIS VIEWPOINT WE BELIEVE UNDER HIS CHAIRMANSHIP TEWG IS MORE LIKELY TO DEVELOP INTO RHETORICAL EXCHANGE DESCRIBED PARA 3C REFTEL. ON OTHER HAND, FLIT IS NOT ANTI-U.S. AND IF HE PERCEIVES THAT U.S. IS MAKING SINCERE EFFORT TO ACCOMMODATE LATIN CONCERNS, WE THINK HE CAN BE HELPFUL TO U.S. DEL.
DEAN

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